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REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 10, 13 and 15 remain pending in this application.

I. Claim amendments

The amendments to claims 1 and 10 are supported by the original disclosure, for example page 4, lines 1-5; page 7, line 28 to page 8, line 4; and page 8, lines 5-10.

Claim 3 is amended to refer back to the first and second resonators recited in claim 1.

No new matter has been added.

II. Claim objections

Claims 1 and 10 are objected to for the reasons noted. The language "dead space" has been changed to "space", which is disclosed, for example, at page 4, line 2. With respect to "and to a side of the connection pipe", claim 1 has been amended to recite that the space is located to the side of the connection pipe (Applicants note that this language is not used in claim 10 as suggested in the objection). The language "and having a width of the air cleaner space [sic]" has been removed from claims 1 and 10. With respect to the last two lines of claims 1 and 10, the meaning of the language is clear from the claims. This feature is described at page 8, lines 5-10 and illustrated in Figure 7.

Withdrawal of the objections is requested.

III. Claim rejections

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 10, 13 and 15 are rejected to as being anticipated by or in the alternative as being obvious over Kostun et al. (6,427,112) or Akihisa et al (6,155,224).

Kostun and Akihisa do not teach or suggest the inventions recited in claims 1 and 10. For example, Kostun and Akihisa do not teach or suggest an intake device as recited in claim 1 where the second resonator is disposed in the space between the air cleaner and

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the carburetor, with the space being located to a side of the connection pipe, and where the first and second resonators are each disposed within the width of the air cleaner case. In addition, Kostun and Akihisa do not teach or suggest an intake device as recited in claim 10 where the second resonator is located in the space between the air cleaner and the carburetor, and where the first and second resonators are each disposed within the width of the air cleaner case.

Kostun is characterized in the rejection as disclosing first and second resonators 146, 152 and air cleaner 148 (Figure 8 of Kostun). As noted in the rejection, Kostun does not disclose a carburetor, or the position of such a carburetor relative to the air cleaner. Absent such disclosure, there is no disclosure as to whether any space exists between the air cleaner and the carburetor. Therefore, Kostun does not teach or suggest the claimed positioning of the second resonator 152 in a space between the air cleaner 148 and the carburetor.

Further, Kostun does not teach or suggest that the resonators 146, 152 are each disposed within the width of the air cleaner 148. Kostun does not disclose a view of the air cleaner 148 that would permit determination as to whether the resonators 146, 152 are within the width of the air cleaner. The rejection does not address this feature, and any conclusion that such a feature is found in Kostun is not supported by Kostun.

Akihisa does not remedy the deficiencies of Kostun. Akihisa is characterized in the rejection as disclosing resonators 107, 109, 110 and air cleaner 100. As noted in the rejection, Akihisa does not disclose a carburetor, or the position of such a carburetor relative to an air cleaner. Absent such disclosure, there is no disclosure as to whether any space exists between the air cleaner and the carburetor. Therefore, Akihisa does not teach or suggest the claimed positioning of a second resonator in a space between the air cleaner 100 and the carburetor.

Further, Akihisa does not teach or suggest that first and second resonators are each disposed within the width of the air cleaner 100. Akihisa does not disclose a view of the air cleaner 100 that would permit determination as to whether any two of the resonators 107, 109, 110 are within the width of the air cleaner. The rejection does not address this feature, and any conclusion that such a feature is found in Akihisa is not supported by Akihisa.

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Since Kostun and Akihisa do not individually teach all claimed features, claims 1 and 10 are patentable over Kostun and Akihisa, either singly or in combination.

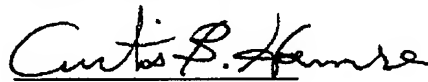
Claims 3, 4, 7, 13 and 15 depend upon claims 1 and 10, and are patentable for that reason alone and need not be separately distinguished. Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejections to the dependent claims.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, early issuance of a notice of allowance is solicited. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, Curtis B. Hamre, Reg. 29,165, at (612)455-3802.

Respectfully Submitted,

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